

## **Veterans Service Commission Meeting**

May 3, 2022

West Entrance Meeting Room, Taylor County Courthouse

**Call Veteran Service Commission Meeting to Order:** Chairman Rev. Warren Behling called the Commission meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

**Members Present:** Rev. Warren Behling, Barry Anderson, Donald Schindler

**Members Absent:** None

**Other Attendees:** Benefit Specialist Nikki Sherman

**Approve Minutes.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, to approve the April 8, 2022. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

**Approve Agenda.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, to approve the agenda with 10 items. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

The applicant was asked to come in to discuss financial situation and to offer clarification on application.

**Closed Session.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, at 10:23 a.m. into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c), for purpose of discussing specifics of veteran's financial situation. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

**Open Session.** A motion was made by Behling, seconded by Anderson, to go into open session at 10:33 a.m. A unanimous cast, the motion carried

It was decided to assist the veteran by paying \$1000 toward the replacement of the shower.

**Set next meeting date:** The next Veteran Service Commission meeting will be announced as needed.

**Adjournment.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, to adjourn at 10:50 AM. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

**Secretary:** Nikki Sherman, Veteran Benefits Specialist

## **Veterans Service Commission Meeting**

April 8, 2022

West Entrance Meeting Room, Taylor County Courthouse

**Call Veteran Service Commission Meeting to Order:** Chairman Rev. Warren Behling called the Commission meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

**Members Present:** Rev. Warren Behling, Barry Anderson, Donald Schindler

**Members Absent:** None

**Other Attendees:** CVSO Shellie Shaw, Benefit Specialist Nikki Sherman, Brian Wilson, Star News.

**Approve Minutes.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, to approve the August 10, 2021. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

**Approve Agenda.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, to approve the agenda. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

**2021 Approved Annual Report.** Mrs. Shaw presented the 2021 approved annual report. The report will be updated with the year-end final budget numbers when they are available. Mrs. Shaw noted there were no budget changes for 2021. Mrs. Shaw explained how the VSO handles hospice care with Veterans. On page 4, Mrs. Shaw explained the administrated numbers and the increase in numbers are highlighted. Mrs. Shaw explained the WDVA grant and that it will be \$11,000. Mrs. Shaw also presented the donations from our community. The donations are being used for the Veterans Outreach Day as well as unmet needs for veterans. Also talked about the increase in office visits, phone calls, and the busyness of the office. It was explained that this annual report was already approved on 3/4/22, this was just a FYI to the commission.

**Office Hours.** There was discussion between the commission and Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Sherman regarding the number of hours being worked. Mr. Anderson stated that he has talked to different Veterans in the area, and he was very happy with everything that he is hearing on the work Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Sherman are doing in the office and for our local Veterans. He also stated that Veterans not only have physical wounds but also mental health wounds that are just as important. It is nice to see the numbers in the office are going up. Mr. Anderson asked if the CVSO office was ever 40 hours a week? Mrs. Sherman stated that we are 35 hours a week but we both work 40 plus hours a week and comp the extra hours due to the workload. Mr. Anderson stated that we don't have any power to change that, but we can ask the board as private citizens to see about increasing the hours. Mrs. Shaw stated that she knows a lot of our Veterans are very pleased with us and word of mouth is huge, that could be why the increase in our workload.

**Set next meeting date:** The next Veteran Service Commission meeting will be announced as needed.

**Adjournment.** A motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Schindler, to adjourn at 3:30 P.M. A unanimous vote cast, the motion carried.

**Secretary:** Nikki Sherman, Veterans Service Office